

Message Text

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72

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19

IO-15 AID-20 OPR-02 PC-15 DRC-01 /192 W

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R 092010Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3886

INFO AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUENOS AIRES 7429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, AR

SUBJECT: VIOLENCE MARKS ANNIVERSARY OF CHE'S DEATH

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

REF: BA 7385, 6953

1. SUMMARY. VIOLENCE CONTINUES TO PLAGUE ARGENTINA WITH TERRORISTS, POLICE AND VARIOUS LABOR FACTIONS ALL TAKING PART. ANNIVERSARY OF CHE GUEVARRA'S DEATH WAS COMMEMORATED WITH IN-EFFECTUAL ATTACK ON SHERATON HOTEL AND FIRE-BOMBING OF BANK OF AMERICA, AMONG OTHER EVENTS. END SUMMARY.

2. FEDERAL POLICE DENIED PERMISSION TO HOLD GATHERING IN COMMEMORATION OF CHE GUERVARA'S DEATH. ANNIVERSARY WAS MARKED BY OTHER EVENTS HOWEVER INCLUDING FOLLOWING.

3. ATTACK AGAINST SHERATON HOTEL. IN AN ATTACK SIMILAR TO ONE ON AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE (SEE BA 6953), TERRORISTS LEFT A PICKUP IN FRONT OF HOTEL FROM WHICH 12 ROCKETS WERE FIRED

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ELECTRICALLY MOMENTS LATER. OF ROCKETS FIRED, ONLY 2 HIT

BUILDING, CAUSING LITTLE DAMAGE AND NO INJURIES.

4. BANK OF AMERICA FIRE-BOMBED. GROUP OF YOUNG DEMONSTRATORS THREW MOLOTOV COCKTAILS IN BANK LOCATED IN DOWNTOWN BUENOS AIRES. POLICE ARRESTED 28 PERSONS. DAMAGE TO BUILDING APPARENTLY WAS CONSIDERABLE.

5. FOUR CARS OF A PASSENGER TRAIN WERE SET ON FIRE ON OUTSKIRTS OF BUENOS AIRES. POLICE LATER FOUND ERP LEAFLETS AT SITE.

6. SHOOTOUTS BETWEEN POLICE AND CRIMINALS ALSO CONTINUE TO OCCUR. FIVE PERSONS IN A STOLEN CAR WERE KILLED YESTERDAY IN AN EXCHANGE OF GUNFIRE WITH POLICE. THERE IS SOME REASON TO BELIEVE THESE CRIMINALS MAY, IN FACT, HAVE BEEN TERRORISTS.

7. VIOLENT ACTS INVOLVING LABOR UNIONS HAVE BECOME MORE COMMON RECENTLY, REFLECTING DEEP DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO WINGS OF THE LABOR MOVEMENT. CORDOBA CGT HQ WAS MACHINEGUNNED ON OCT 4 WITH 5 PEOPLE WOUNDED. ON OCT 8 A LABOR UNION OFFICIAL WAS KIDNAPPED IN BUENOS AIRES. IN THESE TWO CASES ATTACKS WERE AGAINST UNION "LEFTISTS" AND THEREFORE PROBABLY PERPETRATED BY MEMBERS OF OFFICIAL ORTHODOX FACTION. ON OCT 9 A LEADER OF TRANSPORTATION WORKERS UNION IN MAR DEL PLATA WAS ASSASSINATED. HE BELONGED TO OFFICIAL ORTHODOX RANKS AND WAS A CLOSE FRIEND OF MAR DEL PLATA CGT SEC GEN WHO WAS KILLED ON AUG. 27.
LODGE

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